

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 9 and 12 and add new Claims 13 and 14 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid transfer apparatus for transferring a micro-volume of liquid, said apparatus having a plurality of units, each unit comprising:
 - a liquid containing section for containing liquid;
 - a liquid introducing section for introducing liquid into said liquid containing section; and
 - a liquid leading out section for leading out the liquid introduced into said liquid containing section,wherein said liquid introducing section of ~~one~~ a first unit and said liquid leading out section of ~~another~~ a second unit are connected, with each liquid leading out section ~~of each unit~~ having energy application means for applying energy for ejecting the liquid, and
wherein each said unit can be connected to and disconnected from the liquid transfer apparatus in a cassette-like manner.

2. (Currently Amended) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least either said liquid introducing section or said liquid leading out section of said first unit has a sealing material for maintaining a liquid-tightness when it is connected to said

liquid leading out section or said liquid introducing section, ~~whichever appropriate, of another liquid transfer apparatus~~ said second unit.

3. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said liquid containing section includes processing means for heating, condensing, agitating, mixing or causing a chemical or biochemical reaction of the liquid introduced from said liquid introducing section.

4. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said liquid leading out section has a check valve.

Claim 5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer according to claim 1, wherein said liquid containing section has a plurality of liquid introducing sections, and further comprising means for mixing a first liquid introduced from one of said liquid introducing sections and a second liquid introduced from another one of said liquid introducing sections.

Claims 7 and 8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising analyzing means for analyzing a specific component contained in ~~the~~ a mixture solution mixed by said mixing means.

10. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said analyzing means is detection means for detecting the specific component.

Claim 11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a connection/disconnection section for connecting ~~with another~~ each said unit together in a cassette-like manner.

13. (New) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said energy application means comprises a thermal jet system or a piezo jet system.

14. (New) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said connection/disconnection section includes a first member having a recess on said first unit and a second member having a projection on said second unit, with the projection to be received in the recess of said first unit in a cassette-like manner.